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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 000230

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TAGS: PREL GG RS DA SUBJECT: DENMARK CONCERNED ABOUT RUSSIAN APPROACH ON

ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA

REF: STATE 40673

Classified By: Pol/Econ Counselor Bill Mozdzierz, reasons 1.4b,d

(C) The Danish government shares our concerns about Russia's new presidential instructions and other moves on Abkhazia and South Ossetia (reftel), Danish MFA Head of Department for Eastern Europe Ruben Madsen assured us April 22. These measures represent yet another step in Russia's aggressive campaign, Ruben observed, and they must be firmly opposed. Danish Foreign Minister Per Stig Moller earlier declared publicly that the Russian action is "the price we are paying for not extending MAP to Georgia," Madsen noted, indicating that the foreign minister would take a tough stance on the matter in scheduled consultations with the Danish parliament and at the upcoming GAERC meeting with his EU counterparts. At this point, however, Madsen could not pledge that the Danes would demarche the Russians bilaterally. CAIN